

I've had it up to
he pointed his index finger
to the top of his head
here.

You want your pancakes
with or without?
With.
She served his pancakes
with.

I've had it up to here.
This time he pointed
to his throat. Coffee's
cold he said.

How do you know? You
haven't had any.
He sipped at the coffee
behind The Herald threw
the paper on the floor
banged the coffeecup
on the table.

Up to here she heard
as he
pointed his beard
out the door.

-- Herman Gold

Bay Harbor Island FL

TO COMPLETE THE CIRCLE

we need people who have the power
to give it
to those unable to start themselves
mobility is an evasion
it's impossible to be receptive
while listening to the news
we need people with the power to be generous
who do not think in 4 year terms
the president is at least 150 years
behind his time
we don't need a House
we need people

without blow dryers & an eye
for the superfluous
it's much too late
we need the truly capable
to overcome their personal disgust
& remove the obstructions

THE HEAT IN HARVARD YARD

i can see he wants something
i don't want to give
courteous information
i refuse
as he begins
"do you know where ... ?"
that's as far as it goes
before i've got his throat in my left hand
my right has already thrown 6 or 7 short punches
i can hear the crunch of bone in his nose
those complacent teeth
are ridged with his own blood
one eye is swollen & beginning to close
i'm pounding his stomach & kidneys
all wishful thinking
he ignores my verbal rudeness
& begins his own form of insolence
"relax, relax" he smirks
fat fuckin chance

-- J Levin

Cambridge MA

HOUSE IMAGE

In P-town, Massachusetts,
87 Roses, 54 Silvers and
102 Snows intermarry freely
so that after a while
everyone is his own cousin.
Phonebooks are useless
if you want to get the plumber.
And the poets are
sounding more like pipes each day
silent
except when they chink
against each other.